

Ravalli County Commissioners
215 S 4th Street, Suite A
Hamilton, MT 59840

RECEIVED

JUN 27 2007

Ravalli County Commissioners

--	--	--	--	--

June 25, 2007

Dear Commissioners,

Please accept and add to the official record these comments regarding the proposed rock quarry in Lost Horse Canyon.

I am strongly opposed to allowing a rock quarry operation in the Lost Horse Canyon for the following reasons:

1. The area is currently used for diverse recreation opportunities that will be adversely impacted by a rock quarry. Some of these activities that I enjoy that would be impacted are: rock climbing, hiking, camping, fishing, horseback riding, nature study, and scenic driving
2. I belong to the technical mountain rescue team of Ravalli County Search and Rescue. We routinely use the Lost Horse Observation Point rock cliffs as well as the rock face directly above the rock quarry for high angle rescue training. This area is unique in that it is easily accessible during most months of the year and we can drive right to it allowing us to be training but still readily available if we get a call out for a mission at that time. The rocks and cliffs here are unique for gear placement and for the ready availability of natural anchors as well as the placement of some of our more technical equipment.
3. There is not a proven need to open this area. I am aware that the rock quarry near Darby may not be suitable for material due to a noxious weed infestation. Treating the weeds at the Darby pit is bound to be less expensive than the expenses that will be incurred from opening a pit at Lost Horse.
 - a. Roads will have to be improved and maintained to handle the truck traffic
 - b. By law, I believe that the Forest Service will need a reclamation bond for the Lost Horse pit from the road department. The site will also have to have a reclamation plan that will need to be carried out when the site is no longer being "mined". This will encourage long term and expanded use of the area to delay going into the reclamation stage, which in turn, will mean increased and expanded use of the rock quarry. This will have an escalating and permanent impact on the suitability of the area for rock climbing and other recreation activities.
4. NEPA requires that an environmental analysis or an environmental impact study be done if a proposed activity will have a significant impact on the natural or human environment. A rock quarry in Lost Horse will have significant impacts on

1. The Commission has been informed that the Government of India has decided to set up a National Commission for the Backward Classes (NCBC) to look into the problems of the backward classes and to recommend measures for their advancement. The Commission has been informed that the Government of India has decided to set up a National Commission for the Backward Classes (NCBC) to look into the problems of the backward classes and to recommend measures for their advancement.

[illegible][illegible]

1. *Agreement* – The parties to the contract must agree to the terms of the contract. This is the most basic requirement for a contract.

2. *Offer and Acceptance* – There must be a clear offer by one party and acceptance by the other. The offer must be definite and the acceptance must be unequivocal.

3. *Consideration* – Each party must provide something of value to the other. This can be money, goods, services, or a promise to do something.

4. *Legal Capacity* – The parties must be legally capable of entering into a contract. This means they must be of legal age and of sound mind.

5. *Legality* – The contract must be for a legal purpose. It cannot be for something that is illegal or against public policy.

6. *Consent* – The parties must enter into the contract voluntarily. There must be no fraud, duress, or undue influence.

7. *Form* – Some contracts must be in writing, while others can be oral. This depends on the type of contract and the jurisdiction.

8. *Dispute Resolution* – The contract should specify how any disputes will be resolved. This can be through arbitration or the courts.

9. *Assignment* – The contract should specify whether the rights and obligations can be assigned to another party.

10. *Termination* – The contract should specify the conditions under which it can be terminated.

1. Definition of the problem
 2. Statement of the objectives
 3. Statement of the scope
 4. Statement of the assumptions
 5. Statement of the limitations
 6. Statement of the significance
 7. Statement of the importance
 8. Statement of the relevance
 9. Statement of the necessity
 10. Statement of the feasibility
 11. Statement of the desirability
 12. Statement of the urgency
 13. Statement of the timeliness
 14. Statement of the appropriateness
 15. Statement of the effectiveness
 16. Statement of the efficiency
 17. Statement of the economy
 18. Statement of the equity
 19. Statement of the sustainability
 20. Statement of the transparency
 21. Statement of the accountability
 22. Statement of the integrity
 23. Statement of the honesty
 24. Statement of the openness
 25. Statement of the communication
 26. Statement of the participation
 27. Statement of the consultation
 28. Statement of the collaboration
 29. Statement of the partnership
 30. Statement of the cooperation
 31. Statement of the support
 32. Statement of the assistance
 33. Statement of the help
 34. Statement of the aid
 35. Statement of the relief
 36. Statement of the rescue
 37. Statement of the recovery
 38. Statement of the restoration
 39. Statement of the reconstruction
 40. Statement of the rehabilitation
 41. Statement of the revitalization
 42. Statement of the rejuvenation
 43. Statement of the renewal
 44. Statement of the regeneration
 45. Statement of the renaissance
 46. Statement of the reformation
 47. Statement of the reform
 48. Statement of the revolution
 49. Statement of the transformation
 50. Statement of the change
 51. Statement of the transition
 52. Statement of the evolution
 53. Statement of the development
 54. Statement of the growth
 55. Statement of the progress
 56. Statement of the advancement
 57. Statement of the improvement
 58. Statement of the enhancement
 59. Statement of the enrichment
 60. Statement of the elevation
 61. Statement of the exaltation
 62. Statement of the glorification
 63. Statement of the glorification
 64. Statement of the glorification
 65. Statement of the glorification
 66. Statement of the glorification
 67. Statement of the glorification
 68. Statement of the glorification
 69. Statement of the glorification
 70. Statement of the glorification
 71. Statement of the glorification
 72. Statement of the glorification
 73. Statement of the glorification
 74. Statement of the glorification
 75. Statement of the glorification
 76. Statement of the glorification
 77. Statement of the glorification
 78. Statement of the glorification
 79. Statement of the glorification
 80. Statement of the glorification
 81. Statement of the glorification
 82. Statement of the glorification
 83. Statement of the glorification
 84. Statement of the glorification
 85. Statement of the glorification
 86. Statement of the glorification
 87. Statement of the glorification
 88. Statement of the glorification
 89. Statement of the glorification
 90. Statement of the glorification
 91. Statement of the glorification
 92. Statement of the glorification
 93. Statement of the glorification
 94. Statement of the glorification
 95. Statement of the glorification
 96. Statement of the glorification
 97. Statement of the glorification
 98. Statement of the glorification
 99. Statement of the glorification
 100. Statement of the glorification

1. The first step is to identify the problem or goal. This involves understanding the current situation and what needs to be achieved.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60	61	62	63	64	65	66	67	68	69	70	71	72	73	74	75	76	77	78	79	80	81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90	91	92	93	94	95	96	97	98	99	100
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	-----

[illegible]

PARCELA 121

recreation, nearby communities and the natural environment. Many circumstances such as housing density, recreation type and number of participants, road use, as well as wildlife and vegetative type and dispersement has changed significantly since the quarry was last operational. Due to the length of time(decades) since the area was last permitted, it is reasonable to assume that new biological assessments and surveys should be conducted. For example, on a recent visit to the site I observed, knapweed, goat weed and cheat grass at the proposed quarry site

5. The Forest Service needs to look at other proposed alternatives for this area. The Bitterroot Climbers Coalition is in the process of drafting a proposal to the Forest Service to "adopt" the area much like the Backcountry Horsemen have done for the Coyote Coulee area. They are proposing contributing volunteer time raising funds to make the area a first class climbing destination for Montana. They propose installing a toilet, improving parking, doing regular weed pulling and clean-up, establishing and maintaining suitable access trails to the climbs. A full-color guide book is in the works that will be published soon and made available world-wide. Rock climbing is becoming more and more popular and the addition of this Lost Horse climbing destination would benefit the local economy. As I understand it, the Climbers have been working on this for a couple of years and are trying to expedite the proposal at this time as they have only recently become aware of the proposed rock quarry proposal.

In conclusion, I adamantly believe that permitting a rock quarry at Lost Horse is not in the best interest of the public.

Sincerely,



Lisa Philipps
840 North Shoshone Loop
Hamilton. MT 59840

CC :

Chuck Oliver, Darby District Ranger
Barry Paulson, Acting Forest Supervisor, Bitterroot National Forest